Dehradun, (India's Forest, 1987), based on the visual interpretation of satellite imagery pertaining to the period 1981-83, the forest cover of Jammu & Kashmir was 20880 sq. kms., and as per the third and the latest assessment of forest cover based on visula interpretation of based on visual interpretation of satellite imagery pertaining to the period 1987-89, the forest cover of Jammu & Kashmir is 20424 sq. kms., there is thus a lost of forest cover to the tune of 456 sq. kms. in nearly 7 years period.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the State Govt. to stop felling of trees in Jammu & Kashmir:-

(i) Commercial felling of trees in specifled catchments in both Jammu and Kashmir regions have been banned since 15-1-1990.

(ii) Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act, 1990 has been enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest land for non forestry purposes.

(iii) The State Govt. have proposed to reduce the annual yield from 8·57 lacs cubic metre prescribed in the working plans to 1·43 lacs cubic metre in 1992-93.

**World bank project for Pollution Control Boards of states**

2069. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved a World Bank Project, strengthing the technical fiscal and administrative conditions of the pollution control Boards of the States ; and

(b if so, the detail of this project and by when it is likely to come into force ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India entered into an agreement with the World Bank for line of credit for US 155.6 million for a project on "Industrial Pollution Control". Activities under the project, which has commenced from November 6 1991, include the following :

(i) To strengthen the monitoring and enforcement abilities of the Pollution Control Boards of the industrialised States in the country, *via*, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) Provision of loans to individual units to instal appropriate pollution control devices.

(iii) To provide grant and loan assistance for the establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for the combined treatment of effluents from clusters of small-scale units.

(iv) To introduce clean technologies which would have a minimum generation of wastes through demonstration projects and studies

(v) To support a training programme of the staff of Pollution Control Boards and of the financial institutions involved in the Project.

**Forest area of some districts in Madhya Pradesh**

2070. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that due to mining of cool in Shahdol, Sarguja and Sidhi Districts in Madhya Pradesh, the forests in these areas have completely vanished ;